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AVISO.

Con motivo de haber sido declarado oficialmente festivo el día de hoy, no se publicará la "Gaceta" correspondiente al Domingo 23 del corriente.

IMPORTANTE.

Ponemos en conocimiento de los Sres. que utilizan la "Gaceta de Puerto-Rico" para la publicación de Edictos judiciales, en asuntos de partes, que publicado por primera vez y no satisfecho su importe, se suspenderán las otras dos publicaciones.

Sucesores de J. J. Acosta,

Puerto-Rico, 9 de Octubre de 1901.

Proprietarios y Editores de la
"Gaceta de Puerto-Rico."

PARTE OFICIAL

An Act

to provide for the Regulation and Government of the Insular Police of Porto Rico.

BE IT ENACTED by the Legislative Assembly of Porto Rico:

Section 1. The organized force formerly known as the Insular Police, and later and now called the Insular Police of Porto Rico, shall continue to be designated by the latter term.

Section 2. The officers and men of the force at present serving in the organization, shall continue in their service the same as now, without re-appointment or re-enlistment.

Section 3. The Insular Police shall be under the control and command of the Chief, subject to the direction of the Governor.

Section 4. The officers and men of this force shall hereafter be designated as commissioned officers, warrant officers, and mounted and foot police.

Section 5. The duty of the Insular Police shall be to protect persons and property and maintain and preserve public order throughout Porto Rico, including the cities, the municipalities and the rural districts.

Section 6. In any city under control of the Insular Police where the urban population may exceed ten thousand, if it shall appear to the satisfaction of the Governor of the Island that such city is financially able to maintain a municipal police and to preserve order within such city by means of a municipal police force, then and in such case the Governor may in his discretion withdraw the Insular Police force from city; and upon such order of withdrawal, the municipal police force shall be organized under proper regulations and shall thereafter preserve public order and protect persons and property within the limits of such city. But after the municipal police have assumed control, if it shall thereafter appear to the Governor that the city is unable to maintain a municipal police force, or that public order is not preserved, or that persons and property are not properly protected by the municipal police force then it shall be lawful for the Governor in his discretion, to direct the Insular Police to resume control within the limits of such city, and after such direction shall be given, then all the powers and functions of the municipal police shall at once cease, and the police authority shall be exclusively vested in the Insular Police.

Section 7. The Insular Police force shall be distributed and stationed as follows: The Headquarters

shall be in the City of San Juan where the Commission shall sit, and where shall be the Headquarters of the Chief, together with the adjutant, paymaster, inspector, Chief musician, one sergeant, one corporal and two privates. There shall be established not exceeding seven police districts the island; and at headquarters in each one of the said districts there shall be stationed one captain, who shall be in command of the force within the district, and one first lieutenant, and as many warrant officers as the Chief may deem proper and convenient. Each district shall be divided into two precincts, and the headquarters of one of such precincts shall be at the headquarters of the district and in command of the first lieutenant who may be stationed in such precinct. The headquarters of the other precinct shall be designated by the Chief and be commanded by a second lieutenant with a warrant officer. In the more important towns throughout the island sergeants shall be stationed, while corporals shall be stationed among the smaller towns and in the rural districts. The number of guardsmen requisite for duty shall be distributed by the Chief to the several districts and precincts throughout the island.

Section 8. The Chief of Police, with the approval of the Governor, shall detail one first lieutenant to be adjutant, one first lieutenant to be paymaster, one second lieutenant to be inspector, and one second lieutenant to be Chief Musician and the sergeant, corporal and guardsmen, who are to be stationed at headquarters.

Section 9. The Governor, by and with the consent of the Executive Council, is hereby authorized to appoint an Insular Police Commission to be composed of three reputable citizens who do not hold commissions and who are not enlisted in the Insular Police, and who shall serve as Commissioners without compensation, and whose duty shall be as hereinafter defined. The term of office of the Commissioners shall be three years from the date of appointment but the first commissioners to be appointed under this act shall be appointed and hold office for one, two and three years respectively.

Section 10. The Commissioner having the shortest time to serve shall be the chairman of the Commission. There shall be one guardsman detailed as a clerk for the Commission.

Section 11. It shall be the duty of the said Insular Police Commission to establish rules and regulations prescribing rigid physical and mental qualifications as conditions of enlistment in the Insular Police, and such rules and regulations shall be approved by the Governor before they become operative, and thereafter enlistments shall be made pursuant to such rules and regulations.

Section 12. The said Insular Police Commission shall also make rules and regulations with respect to the conduct of the Insular Police, provided the means and methods by which punishment may be imposed for violation thereof; but no such rules or regulations shall conflict with the provisions of the law, nor shall they be effective or valid until first approved by the Governor.

Section 13. All rules and regulations made in pursuance of the two preceding sections, when approved by the Governor, shall be published in pamphlet form, in English and Spanish, as the official rules of the Insular Police, and distributed to all commissioned officers, warrant officers and guardsmen belonging to the force.

Section 14. All enlistments hereafter made shall be for the term of two years.

Section 15. Persons enlisted in the Insular Police must be bona fide citizens of Porto Rico, between the ages of twenty-one and forty years, of good character and sound health, able to read and write, weighing not less than one hundred and thirty pounds, and being not less than one hundred and sixty-eight centimeters in height, and possessing a chest movement of at least five centimeters.

Section 16. It shall be the duty of the Insular Police Commission to examine all applicants for enlistment, and to appoint all guardsmen according to the respective merits of the applicants.

Section 17. No person enlisted as a guardsman in the present Insular Police, shall be removed by the Commission, except where the term of enlistment has expired, or where such person has become physically incompetent, or where he has been convicted of a crime before a competent court, but the Commission shall have the power to fine or to suspend or to remove any warrant officer or guardsman for a violation of any of the rules or regulations of the force; but in case of removal or suspension, the action of the Commission shall not be valid until endorsed by the Chief and approved by the Governor.

Section 18. Any warrant officer or guardsman may be temporarily suspended from duty without pay, by orders of the Chief, for violation of the rules or regulations, such suspension to continue until action is taken in regard to the matter by the Insular Police Commission.

Section 19. All officers of the Insular Police of Porto Rico shall be appointed and commissioned by the Governor and shall hold their office at his pleasure; and all promotions to the rank of commissioned officer or from one grade to another among the Commissioned officers, shall be made at the pleasure of the Governor.

Section 20. Warrant officers shall be appointed by the Chief of the Insular Police after competitive examination of applicants from the ranks. The Chief shall have the power to reduce any warrant officer to the grade of guardsman for a violation of the rules or regulations.

Section 21. Commissions issued to persons holding appointments in the existing Insular Police force, shall bear date from the time of their respective appointment therein.

Section 22. The Insular Police Commission, with the approval of the Governor shall fix the compensation of the officers and the enlisted men the Insular Police of Porto Rico, not to exceed a maximum annual compensation according to the following rates: The Chief twenty seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$2750); each captain, fifteen hundred dollars (\$1500); each first lieutenant, one thousand, dollars (\$1000); each second lieutenant, nine hundred dollars (\$900); each sergeant, six hundred dollars (\$600); each corporal, four hundred and eighty dollars (\$480); each guardsman, three hundred and sixty dollars (\$360). Captains stationed and residing in San Juan, Ponce and Mayaguez, may receive each twenty five dollars (25) per month additional compensation. The paymaster shall receive additional compensation at the rate of two hundred dollars (\$200) per annum.

Section 23. The numerical strength of the Insular Police of Porto Rico shall be such as the Insular Police Commission, with approval of the Governor, may determine, but the maximum force shall never exceed one Chief, seven captains, nine first lieutenants, nine second lieutenants, twenty five sergeants, seventy five corporals and seven hundred guardsmen. Not more than two hundred of the guardsmen shall be mounted.

Section 24. The Insular Police Commission shall authorize and necessary expenditures of money, and shall approve all vouchers for such necessary expenses, such approval to be evidenced by the signature of the chairman of the Commission.

Section 25. It shall be the duty of the Insular Police Commission to purchase horses and equipments for maintaining and equipping the horsemen and such commissioned officers and warrant officers as may be necessary. The feeding, care and shoeing of the horses of that portion of the force which is mounted by the direction of the Insular Police commission, shall be a charge against the Insular Police fund.

Section 26. Any warrant officer whose term of enlistment expires, shall retain his rank if he re-enlists.